

Appendix B

TRACS Message Formats B-1

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Appendix B: TRACS Message Formats

TRACS Tenant and Voucher/Payment processing will result in various messages being generated and returned to the entity that submitted the input. Do not confuse the TRACS Messages with the MAT Messages that were described in the **MATER** and **MATEV** records in Chapter 4 and further documented in Appendix C. Both the TRACS Tenant and the Voucher/Payment systems return messages to the owner or their agent. All messages have a similar format. There is header data that contains information identifying the sender of the submission including project and contract identification data. Tenant and Voucher message headers vary slightly in detail, but they follow the same basic format. Following the header data that identifies the entity to receive the message together with the project and contract identification, there will be a variable number of message lines. The examples that follow are based upon Tenant data.

TRACS Tenant System returns discrepancy messages, fatal error messages, and informational messages to the entity that submitted the input. Discrepancy Messages, documented in Appendix D, indicate that the TRACS edits have detected an inconsistency in the data submitted or in the amounts calculated. The transaction has not been rejected by TRACS, but it has been flagged as a discrepancy. The property owner or agent is expected to research the discrepancy and respond based upon the severity of the discrepancy. In some cases the message is an “information only” message sent by TRACS when it detects an apparent anomaly that may have no bearing on the tenant’s eligibility for assistance.

The TRACS Tenant System will reject some transactions when to accept them would result in corrupting the TRACS database. These fatal errors are documented in Appendix E. Transactions that are rejected due to fatal errors must be corrected and resubmitted to TRACS.

Informational messages are similar to discrepancy messages except that they will not be stored in TRACS. Appendix F documents these informational messages, which are new in Release 201A.

TRACS Voucher/Payment System, like the Tenant System, produces both discrepancy messages and fatal error messages. These messages are in Appendix D and Appendix E, respectively. The TRACS Voucher/Payment System also produces a variety of control and status messages to keep the owners and their agents informed as to the status of their payment. In every case the message header follows the format already described to identify the entity to receive the message and the project and contract to which it pertains. Appendix G documents the message types that are unique to the TRACS Voucher/Payment System.

Figure B-1: TRACS Message Text Format

The following data will be returned in addition to the specific message text.

Field	Data
@*@ TRACSnnnnn	(mailbox identification)
User Defined	(reserved for sender-defined data)
Project Name	
Project Number	
Contract Number	
Unit Number	
SSN	(Head of Household)
Name	(Head of Household)
Tenant Number	
Effective Date	The (re)certification effective date. (Hud-50059, Item #1)
Specific Message Text	

Figure B-2: Sample TRACS Message Transmissions

There are three kinds of TRACS messages transmitted to the owners/agents: **Fatal Error**, **Discrepancy**, and **Informational**. Below is an example of all three kinds of messages transmitted to the user via SprintMail:

@*@ TRACS07160TRACS07760

User Defined : 00001
Project Name : HOME PLACE
Project No. : 89644053
Contract No. : MI43L000006
Unit No. : 9999999999
SSN : 436465872
Name : JAMES, MARIE
Tenant No. :
Effective Date : 1999-01-01

Fatal Error : F0047

INVALID TRANSFER (CHANGE) DATE. UNIT TRANSFER/RENT CHANGE NOT PROCESSED.

@*@ TRACS07190TRACS07190

User Defined : 00006
Project Name : PARK PLACE
Project No. : 88844053
Contract No. : RI48L000007
Unit No. : 7E
SSN : 333663541
Name : BOWEN, CARL
Tenant No. : 6ED
Effective Date : 1999-07-01

Discrepancy: TTP

Action Required: 1

TRACS CALCULATED TOTAL TENANT PAYMENT DIFFERS FROM REPORTED VALUE

REPORTED TOTAL TENANT PAYMENT = 000000000000081

TRACS TOTAL TENANT PAYMENT = 000000000000104

RECALCULATE TTP ON APPROPRIATE WORKSHEET

@*@ TRACS58190TRACS58190

User Defined : 00003

Project Name : GARDEN POND

Project No. : 01646666

Contract No. : IN43L000006

Unit No. : 64

SSN : 314522244

Name : BROWN, LOIS

Tenant No. : 6EC

Effective Date : 1999-07-01

Informational: UA003

NO UNIT ADDRESS IN TRACS FOR THE UNIT BEING VACATED BY A MAT70 UNIT TRANSFER

REPORTED PREVIOUS UNIT NUMBER: 405